

Hospital by the insane has become very great, and is constantly increasing. Scarcely a day passes but some pleading letter comes, asking for relief for a stricken friend or relative. Time and time again has this been reported to you, and in every way possible effort has been made to arouse the public to the needs of the insane. During the two years 549 insane persons (274 men and 275 women) applied for room. Of this number 257 were admitted (131 men and 126 women), leaving 292—143 men and 149 women who could not be taken.

There is a growing demand to have dotards declared insane and sent to the Hospital. These old people are at times troublesome, and the friends believing, in some instances, they may be restored by proper treatment, seek admission; others perhaps are too poor to assume the charge of these old people, while others, I fear, simply wish to rid themselves of a burden by putting it on the public.

In some few instances such persons have been admitted, but it is hardly right to do so until they can be better cared for than in our crowded house, and the few vacancies made by removals should be given to others, who are equally worthy, with prospect of recovery.

It is noticed an increase of cotton mill operatives become insane. This is to be expected since there is a large increase of mills in the State, but it is believed it is out of proportion to the rest of the population. They do not recover as promptly as others. This, too, it seems one would expect. The healthy farmer's daughter, used to free outdoor exercise and good food, has more chances to live than a factory girl who works long hours in a close mill.

It is safe to estimate 500 insane people in the Western Hospital District who urgently need care in the Institu-